From: Lightning
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/23/02 11:09am
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

The DOJ and the US government should put a stop to Microsoft's monopolistic actions. The current proposal is not sufficient to stop Microsoft's actions and is being sent around as a victory due to many loopholes.

Microsoft has not changed their actions much since the trial started. They have continued their actions, even being allowed to release XP which contains so many things built into XP that they can effectively wipe out their competition due to no one needing to go search the net for a movie player, chat program, or other applications that are much better than Microsoft's version. Normal computer users use what the computer comes with. This means that Microsoft can continue being a monopoly until someone else grows larger but Microsoft makes that impossible by making it extremely difficult for anyone, other than Microsoft, to talk and interface with the OS from another OS. The same is true for their applications.

Microsoft needs to be forced to release all protocols and file formats. There is no reason for them not to release a protocol due to security. Such an entry in the proposal means that they can implement security into all protocols then not release any. If an operating system is designed well, then at least the protocols and file formats it uses can be released without worry about security as it will still exist.

Microsoft is continueing to be a monopoly and has so many loopholes in the current proposal that they don't have to change at all. Proposals do not have to be complicated. The more complicated, the easier to find and use a loophole. If the government can not stop Microsoft from what they are doing, who will?

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